369 At night in Sart Tashkent, as in all other towns of Turkestan in-
625 habited by natives, all social intercourse is at a standstill. The secret
361 police which is also retained under Russian rule for the native towns, has hit upon the practical arrangement of regarding as an evildoer and taking into custody everyone, without regard to person, who is found on
[365] the street after dark. This measure has in addition the important advantage of making any outlay of money for street lighting superfluous. Nocturnal peace is, however, in no way essentially furthered by this. For the numerous nightwatchmen produce such a terrible racket and uproar with their drumming and clappers, which they are officially required to use constantly as a proof of conscientious execution of duty, in combination with the uninterrupted yelping of countless stray dogs, which alone populate the streets at night waging pitched battles with each other, that a newcomer is unable for nights on end to get a wink of sleep, especially during warm weather when one is forced by the great heat to sleep outdoors or at least by an open window.

4. The Population of Sart Tashkent.

161 In spite of the considerable expanse of the town, which, including the gardens, has as great an area as Paris, the population figure for Sart Tashkent is only about 125,000. It is impossible to give a more accurate figure, for to penetrate into the families for the purpose of a regular census is rendered impossible by the Mohammedan prejudices of the inhabitants. The Russian administration has had to limit itself to establishing the number of courts which are permanently occupied by a family, and which are taken as the basic unit in the allotment of taxes. For each family, one usually reckons five individuals, which should be fairly close to the truth. /173/ /Figure 62, p. 20a. Caption: A view of Kuldja (from a photography by G. Merzbacher)./

162 /174/ Tashkent has the most mixed population of all the towns in Turkestan, which is only to be expected, considering the position of the town and its history, for all the Mongol tribal groups pouring out of Dzungaria into Turkestan had to go through the region of Tashkent in the course of time, and could press forward only by conquering this powerful town. As a result, Tashkent's original Indo-European inhabitants have been perpetually mixed with the people deposited by all the later migrations, and consequently one encounters all possible types among the people of Tashkent.

726 They had the same tactical value as the army of Darius did in its time in battle with the Macedonian phalanx of Alexander (Figure 68, p. 191; cf. also Figure 152). A former Kokand officer told me that in the struggles between Kokand and Bukhara the armies on both sides were sometimes over 100, 000 strong. The battles waged between these formidable hordes were relatively bloodless, however. After the first shots had been exchanged by both sides from the great distances one of the contending parties always wheeled about /187/ /Figure 66. Caption: Bukharan infantry (after a photograph by G. Merzbacher)./ /188/ and fled, although no one could fathom why just this side fled and not the other. /Footnote containing anecdote omitted./ It was therefore a fully rational act on the part of the Russians to rely upon their own forces in their wars in Central Asia, no matter how few in number and to refuse magnanimously the support, many times offered, of the Bukharan, Kazakh and other native auxiliary troops. /Original text cut out of translation from middle of p. 188 to p. 189, including two footnotes./ /Figure 67. Caption: Bukharan artillery (from a photograph by G. Merzbacher)./

625 For the maintenance of peace and order in the towns of Turkestan there is a special police force consisting of a police chief or /190/ kur-bashi, and a number of policemen or mirshabs. In spite of the primitive organization of the police and the complete absence of street lighting, safety is much greater in the towns of Turkestan inhabited by the natives than in the Russian towns, even though in the latter there are street lights, the police are organized in the European manner, and in addition safety is enforced by a countless horde of nightwatchmen. This is because of the summary and ruthless procedure of the secret police and because the peculiar arrangement described earlier by which all traffic on the streets is forbidden from evening until morning devotions, and everyone seen on the street after dark for whatever reason is arrested. Lovers of nightly adventures, thieves, and other malefactors are therefore in a difficult position. The carrying out of their evil intentions is made easier to some extent, however, in that the policemen and nightwatchmen are obliged to pass the whole night banging on tom-toms, drums and various wooden clappers at brief intervals, partly to frighten the evildoers, and partly to prove that they are at their posts and have not gone to sleep somewhere. For one can count on the honesty and the conscientiousness of the police and the nightwatchmen just as little as on the other people. Those who wander by night on forbidden errands can therefore usually orient themselves with considerable accuracy as to the momentary locations

of the organs of security, and take the necessary precautions accordingly. At the observatory in Tashkent which /191/ is surrounded by a high wall and which, in addition, has a special night watchman for every single building, there was the curious occurrence that while one of the night watchmen was energetically clapping away in discharge of his duty, his own dwelling, which was within the region he was watching, was completely sacked. 625

As representatives of the population of the towns and villages in regard to the government authorities, there are certain elders, chosen by the people themselves, who are designated as 'aksakals' or "greybeards" and play a role completely analogous to that of European mayors. Sart Tashkent divides into four districts or yurts, /Figure 68. Caption: Central Asiatic weapons. (From H. Moser, Durch Zentral - Asien.) Through Central Asia/Leipzig, 1888, F. A. Brockhaus.)/ in which each nominates a special aksakal. These districts, which bear the names Shaikhantaur, Bish-Agach, Sibzor and Kukchi, subdivide further into a larger number of quarters or mahalas, each of which again has its own name. The district of Shaikhantaur, which includes the northeastern part of the town , is divided into forty-eight quarters; the district of Bish-Agach, the part of the town bordering on the Russian town has thirty-two quarters; the northwest part of the town constitutes the Sibzor district, with thirty-eight quarters, and the southwest part is the Kukchi district, with thirty-one quarters. Since its subjection to Russian authority, Tashkent constitutes /192/ administratively a separate part of the Syr-Darya province which includes in addition the districts of Kazalinsk, Perovsk, Amu-Darya, Auliye-Ata, Chimkent, and the Kurama or rural district of Tashkent. Today Tashkent is under a Russian captain of the civil guard with the rank of colonel, for whom two assistants are appointed: one for the Russian part of the town, the other, appointed from the native population, for the Asiatic town. With regard to the inner organization of Sart Tashkent, the Russians have changed almost nothing. As before, the natives choose their aksakals and kazis /judges/ themselves, pay the same taxes as before, only on a noticeably diminished scale, and their police organizations also remain unchanged: There is only the limitation that Russians passing through the Sart town at night are not to be arrested. By this compromise the Russians derive a double advantage. In the first place the natives are flattered that no one has disputed their traditional arrangements; secondly the Russians are relieved of the expense of providing street lighting, police, courts of justice and the like; furthermore they have achieved a much greater

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